

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Shinnichi TAKEZAWA et al.)
) Group Art Unit:
Application No.: Not Yet Assigned)
) Examiner:
Filed: January 29, 2004)
)
For: CARD SLOT UNIT FOR)
PORTABLE DIGITAL)
EQUIPMENT)
)

MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION

**Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the Examiner's attention the document listed on attached Form PTO-1449. A copy of the listed document is attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the document listed on attached Form PTO-1449 and indicate that it was considered by making an appropriate notation on this form.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the above-referenced application.

The following is listed on the accompanying PTO-1449 and is in a non-English language; however a concise statement of relevance is provided herein:

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1. Japanese patent application (Kokai) publication no. 2002-56909, describes a slot device that permits a memory card to function properly even when that memory card is inserted, with its upper side down. The relevance of this document is also discussed at page 2 of the specification of the present application.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed document is material or constitutes "prior art." If the Examiner applies this document as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited document does not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of this document. Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should this document be applied against the claims of the present application.

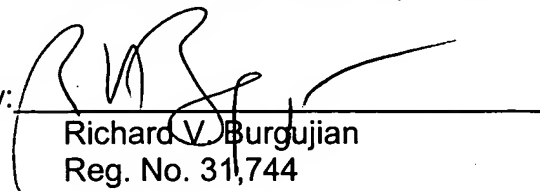
If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: January 29, 2004

By:


Richard V. Burgujian
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Enclosures
RVB/FPD/blc

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No. 04329.3227	Application No.
Applicant Shinnichi TAKEZAWA et al.	
January 29, 2004	Group:

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initial*		Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
		2002-56909	02/22/2002	Japan			No

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)	

Examiner	Date Considered
*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	
Form PTO 1449	Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce